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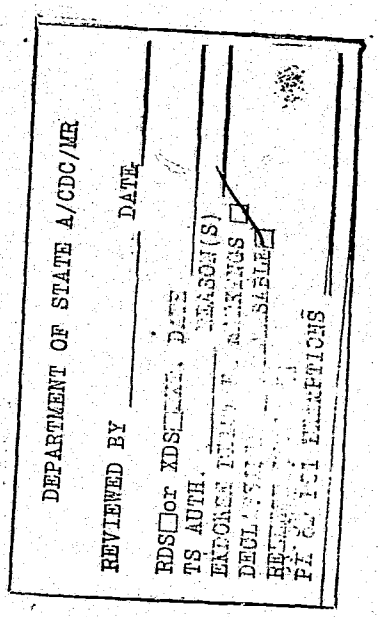
FIRST CLASS

U.S.POSTAGE
JUN21'78

Honorable Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.
20520

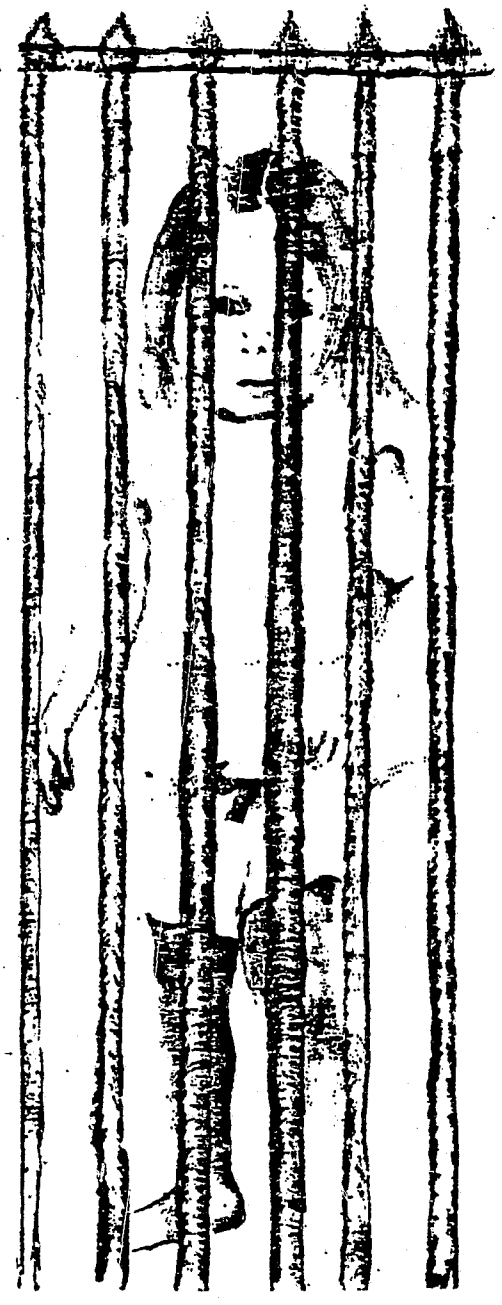


Pol. Gen. Info
1973
SCS

Bowen Lens

THIS NIGHTMARE IS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW

WILL YOU HELP US FREE OUR FAMILIES?



JONESTOWN
CONCENTRATION CAMP
GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

WHO ARE THE "CONCERNED RELATIVES"?

We are individuals having only one bond in common; relatives isolated in the "Jonestown" jungle encampment in Guyana, South America, under the total control of one man, Jim Jones. We espouse no political or religious viewpoint. Our only concern is for our families. We are bewildered and frightened by what is being done to them. Their human rights are being violated and the fabric of our family life is being torn apart.

WHAT SPECIFICALLY IS BEING DONE TO OUR RELATIVES?

These are the sad and terrible facts:

*All decisions in Jonestown are made by one man, Jim Jones. There is no democracy. There is no dissent permitted.

*Armed guards are stationed around Jonestown to prevent anyone leaving unless given express permission by the leader. 200 guns have been transported in. A "SWAT" team patrols the borders of Jonestown.

*Passports and monies are confiscated by Jones upon arrival of his members in Guyana so that they cannot be "cleared" by the Immigration Officials to leave Guyana.

*Long distance telephone calls to the United States are prohibited as part of Jones' campaign that all family ties be cut in favor of his "cause".

*All incoming and outgoing mail is censored.

*No one is permitted to leave Jonestown except on business for the "cause" and then only in the company of other residents who are required to spy and report back to Jones.

*The residents are told that if they try to leave the Peoples Temple organization, they will be killed and their bodies left in the jungle.

*Their leader, Jim Jones, says publicly that a "unanimous vote" of the 1,000 residents of Jonestown (including children) was taken to put "our lives on the line" if the alleged "harrassment" continues. Jones has held mock "mass suicide" sessions to condition his members to die for "the cause" at the moment he gives the order.

-over-

WHY ARE WE ASKING YOU AS A "CONCERNED CITIZEN" TO HELP?

Because we are desperate and don't know what else to do. Neither the Guyana government nor the United States government thus far has been willing to intervene. Jones simply ignores court orders.

We want our loved ones to be allowed to live in freedom. There appears to be only one way to achieve this -- to publicize the truth and to pressure the Prime Minister of Guyana both directly and through the U.S. State Department. We sent a petition on May 10, 1978, to Prime Minister Burnham requesting him to:

1. Order a governmental investigation of Jonestown with inspectors placed there around the clock.

2. Order Jones to stop violating the human and legal rights of our relatives. Specifically, to order Jones to:

   a. Remove all guards preventing people from leaving Jonestown;
   b. Return passports and money;
   c. Permit our relatives to mix with local Guyanese as individuals;
   d. Stop censoring mail;
   e. Permit our relatives to return home for a one-week visit at our expense, return fare guaranteed, to show they are not being held against their will;
   f. Abide by the lawful orders of the courts in the U.S.

3. Expel Jones from Guyana if he refuses to abide by these orders.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US?

Three Things:

* Pray for the safe return of our loved ones soon, even if only for a one-week home visit at our expense, return fare being guaranteed, so we can know they have free will to choose.

* Write to the two officials with power to force Jones to respect human and legal rights:

  Honorable Forbes Burnham
  Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana
  Public Buildings
  Georgetown, Guyana, South America

  and

  Honorable Cyrus Vance
  Secretary of State of the United States
  2201 "C" Street
  N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520

* Give as you feel led to help defray expenses, which are considerable. Send your check to:

  CONCERNED RELATIVES AND CITIZENS
  120 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700
  San Francisco, California 94104

  (An application for tax-exempt status will soon be filed with I.R.S. Our attorneys say "Concerned Relatives and Citizens" meets all the requirements and that approval by the I.R.S. will be retroactive to include donations made now.)

THANK YOU FROM THE DEPTHS OF OUR HEARTS!

L.A. Couple Sue Religious Leader

Coerced Into Selling Home, They Allege in $18 Million Suit

BY RUSSELL CHANDLER
Times Religion Writer

An elderly Los Angeles couple who said they were coerced by People's Temple leader Jim Jones to sell their home and turn the proceeds over to the controversial religious figure filed an $18 million suit Tuesday against Jones in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Jones, who heads a large interfaith religious movement that claims 20,000 members in California, many of them black, since last June has been in Guyana, South America, where he runs the church's 27,000-acre farm colony.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade B. Medlock, who were former members of People's Temple, alleged in the complaint that last year Jones and other defendants used "fraud . . . deceit . . . and threats of death and bodily harm" to "extort" from them the proceeds from the "forced sale" of the Medlock's home and rental property in Los Angeles.

In 1975, according to the suit, Jones, who at the time had a People's Temple in Los Angeles as well as the headquarters temple in San Francisco, began to pressure the Medlocks "to sell all they had, give all proceeds from such sales to People's Temple, and 'go communal.'"

The money was needed, the Medlocks said they were told, to develop the agricultural religious center in Guyana, where about 1,100 of Jones' followers are living.

Jones caused them to offer their properties, which allegedly had a fair market value of $190,000, for sale at $130,000, the suit said.

Among various means of coercion and harassment Jones and others used against them, the Medlocks maintained, was a threat by Jones: "You will either sign these papers or you will die. We are not taking your property but just protecting it."

The Medlocks' attorney is Timothy O. Stoen, a former member of People's Temple in Redwood Valley, near Ukiah in Northern California.

Stoen, one-time assistant district attorney in San Francisco and Mendocino counties, said in an interview he had become disillusioned with Jones after spending time last year in the Guyana jungle encampment know as "Jonestown."

"Jones started an apostolic community based on trust, sharing and the turning over of property in economic fairness, social justice and racial brotherhood," Stoen, 40, said. "But power went to his head."

Stoen said his 6-year-old son is still at the South American colony.

In April, a group of parents and relatives of People's Temple members —including Stoen and Ukiah educator Steve Katsaris, whose 24-year-old daughter is in Guyana—challenged Jones to allow their children to return from Guyana for a one-week visit at the parents' expense.

In a series of affidavits and a petition the group accused Jones of building his power through fear, fraud, physical beatings, appropriation of parishioners' property and "mind-programming."

Last summer, when a series of allegations and complaints against Jones appeared in the press, Jones' aides issued a series of rebuttals calling the charges "abominable, outrageous lies" and countercharged that some of the disscenters were terrorists and child molesters.

Jones wielded considerable political clout in the San Francisco area prior to his departure to Guyana. At that time he resigned from the San Francisco Housing Authority to which he had been appointed chairman by Mayor George Moscone.

His interfaith temple has been visited by prominent political figures and in 1976 the charismatic black preacher shared a platform with Rosalyn Carter during the presidential campaign.

Late last month, Kathy Hunter, the wife of the Ukiah Daily Journal newspaper's executive editor, was placed in protective custody by the Guyanese government for a week after she attempted to investigate the Jonestown colony.

JUST ONE INSTANCE OF HOW JIM JONES, WHO IS WHITE, GAINED HIS POWER BY "RIPPING OFF" BLACK PEOPLE AND THIRD WORLD PEOPLE

P.T. Dem. Mtg. 1983 SCS

JUN 29 1978

San Francisco Chronicle ★★★ Thurs., June 15, 1978

Ex-Peoples Temple Member

Grim Report From Jungle

By Marshall Kilduff

The Peoples Temple jungle outpost in South America was portrayed yesterday as a remote realm where the church leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, orders public beatings, maintains a squad of 30 armed guards and has involved his 1100 followers in a threat of mass suicide.

This description was provided by Deborah Layton, 25, who was a top aide of Jones until she asked American consular officials in Guyana to safeguard her departure from Guyana, where the temple has its agricultural mission.

Peoples Temple officers in San Francisco last night relayed — via shortwave radio from Guyana — a refutation of the charges from two of the South American mission's residents, identified as Lisa and Larry Layton, the mother and brother of Deborah Layton.

"These lies are too ridiculous to refute," Lisa Layton said. ". . . We are treated beautifully here . . ."

Larry Layton said, "We are treated beautifully."

San Francisco temple officer Tim Clancy added, "We absolutely refute all the charges. This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

Jones became the center of a storm of controversy last summer when he slipped out of San Francisco with his followers for Guyana. public charges were made by former followers that Jones had performed false medical cures to win converts, that he oversaw beatings of church members in closed meetings and that he amassed more than $6 million in donations.

According to Layton, Jones has become a "paranoid" obsessed with "traitors" in his own ranks who question him or do not work hard enough in the farm fields and with an outside world that has publicized his critics.

The fever-pitch emotions of temple members that allowed Jones to dispatch them to civil rights causes and liberal political rallies in California has now turned to a military-style vigilance against an imminent attack by unspecified "mercenaries," Layton said.

DEBORAH LAYTON, A FORMER AIDE TO JIM JONES
She told of armed guards and savage discipline

The temple fields are patroled by two rings of khaki-uniformed armed guards, men and women members of "security alert teams" who have access to 200 to 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a homemade bazooka, Layton said.

Discipline, she said, is handled at public gatherings of the entire church community. On one occasion an elderly woman was humiliated by being forced to strip, younger members are "knuckled" by having fists ground into their foreheads, and others are ordered to an underground "box" where they must sit for day at a time, Layton said.

Jones has ringed the work fields with loudspeakers and talks for stretches of up to six hours, she added. Farmhands are expected to work from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an hour for lunch and another hour

for dinner before more sermons lasting until midnight, Layton said.

The diet consists mostly of rice, purchased in the Guyana capital of Georgetown, because the farm is not expected to be self-sufficient for another three years she said.

She said that on the occasion of visits from outsiders whom Jones wished to impress, church members are treated to meat and vegetables. Other trusted followers she claimed were drilled to give optimistic opinions about life at the mission, called Jonestown.

Jones, who often went to elaborate lengths to protect his public image in San Francisco, has remained at the mission, refusing even to venture into Georgetown, she reported.

Among his concerns has been a pending child custody case in the Guyana capital.

She said the 1100 followers were told to drink a bitter brown liquid potion, after which they supposedly would fall asleep and then be shot by Jones' guards. The rehearsal went as far as having the community drink a phony potion before Jones called it off, Layton added.

Layton said she was able to leave Guyana by wangling a trip to Georgetown. After several days she secretly arranged with American consular officials to obtain an emergency passport and flew to New York on May 13. She is now living in San Francisco.

"Everyone there wants to leave, I'm sure of it," she said. "But you never get a chance to be alone. Everyone is told to spy on other people."

Layton, who was in charge of church finances here before joining the Guyana colony last December, said Jones controls bank accounts in Europe, California and Guyana containing "at least $10 million."

Santa Rosa, Calif., Monday, June 19, 1978

Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

By GEORGE KLINEMAN

A trusted Peoples Temple aide who escaped last month from "The Promised Land," the church's 27,000-acre farm in Guyana, South America, claims the 1,100 U.S. citizens residing there are prepared to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Deborah Layton, 25, a graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was headquartered in Redwood Valley, told The Press Democrat that Jones has set up an elaborate plan for exterminating the population at the jungle outpost if it should ever come under attack.

"There was a group assigned to take care of (kill) the children," she said in a telephone interview from the office of her attorney, Jeff Haas, San Francisco. "Then there was another group assigned to take care of those who spoke out against Jones ... Everybody who was going to kill anybody had someone assigned to them as well."

When Haas went to Guyana to represent Grace Stoen in a custody battle with Jones in September, Layton said, Jones ordered her and other temple aides to threaten Guyanese officials with a grisly ultimatum.

Jones, she said, ordered her to tell the officials "that if everything wasn't worked out (the custody case), everyone would be dead by 4:30 (p.m.). She claims she was further instructed to tell the officials the mass suicide "would create an international incident."

Jones, she said, described this tactic as "The crazy nigger approach."

Grace Stoen and her estranged husband, Tim, former assistant district attorney of Mendocino County, are awaiting a decision from the Guyanese court on the legal battle to gain custody of their son, John, age six.

The Rev. Jones claims he is the father of the child.

"John Stoen is treated very well," said Layton. "He lives with Maria Katsaris, who lives in the same cabin where Jim Jones lives." John, she added, "calls Jim Jones 'Dad' and Maria, 'Mom.' He (John) thinks he came out of her (Maria's) womb."

According to official records, John Stoen was born Jan. 25, 1972 at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Tim and Grace Stoen are listed on the birth certificate as the child's parents.

Maria Katsaris' father, Steve, has filed a libel suit against the temple over allegations by Maria that he molested her as a child.

Katsaris, a spokesman for Concerned Relatives, a group that is trying to open communications with relatives at the jungle outpost, is the director of Trinity School,

(Continued on Back Page)

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Peoples Temple

Ukiah.

Layton described Jones as a "paranoid" who demands the complete loyalty of his followers by making them pledge "suicide for the glory of socialism."

On one occasion, she said, Jones tested the loyalty of the group by ordering everyone to drink a "brown liquid" which he told them was a pesticide.

After consuming the bitter potion, Layton said, everyone was to drink large quantities of an alcoholic beverage to induce drowsiness before being shot by Jones' guards.

Jones, she said, called off the stunt after everyone drank the potion.

After she arrived at the sprawling agricultural mission in December, Layton said, she was told to work in the fields for the first month or so, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. "The sun is so hot," she says, "you get blisters on your body."

While she tended the temple's flourishing vegetable crop, Jim Jones' voice blared out over a speaker system that encircles the fields. There were days, she said, when he would speak for six hours at a time.

Jones, she said, would read his own version of the news, which almost invariably included stories of government corruption and CIA plots in the United States. He would ramble on and on with socialist and communist theory, claiming Russia and Cuba are "the spiritual motherland."

On several occasions, Layton said, Jones talked about his deep admiration for Ugandan dictator Idi Amin.

In addition to claiming he is God, Layton said, Jones tells his followers he "is a reincarnation of Lenin."

After spending a month tending thefirids, Layton was transferred to the temple's ham radio shack, where she was trained in the secret codes used for communications with the 200 or so followers still in San Francisco.

Later, Jones placed her in the trusted position of temple bookkeeper, the same position she held at the temple in San Francisco.

Layton claims the books show Jones has "at least $10 million" stashed away in bank accounts in Europe, Guyana and California.

Much of the income that supports his operation in Guyana, she says, comes in the form of Social Security checks that are mailed to elderly residents there. Those checks, which are immediately signed over to the temple, total more than $65,000 per month, she said.

Layton said she had no intention of ever going to Guyana. When temple officials assured her she would be allowed to come home after two months, however, she reluctantly agreed.

After a week in Georgetown, she was taken to Jonestown, the Guyanese government's name for the remote colony.

"When I got to Jonestown and saw the armed guards," she says, "I knew I didn't want to stay."

Two rings of 50 armed guards, both men and women, form "securityalert teams" that surround the compound, she claims. The guards, she said have access to an arsenal that includes between 200 and 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a homemade bazooka.

Layton describes life in the compound as "so structured you had no freedom to yourself, no time to be alone."

Residents there survive on a diet consisting primarily of rice and vegetables.

Interpersonal relationships are forbidden, she claims, without prior approval of "the relations committee," a group of loyal followers who must first approve such arrangements on a three-month trial basis.

During those three months, the couple is allowed to talk together, but must not show any physical affection. After that period, Layton says, the committee reviews the relationship and decides whether the couple will be allowed to live together for six months.

Living together at Jonestown, she adds is no honeymoon experience. Once approved, the couples are moved into cabins that contain 14 bunkbeds each. Each couple is given one bunkbed.

The regimented lifestyle and the brutalities would always be temporarily suspended, she says, when an outside visitor was at the compound.

"When Charles Garry (Jones' attorney) was in Guyana," whe said, "he was given the best cabin there. Everything changed. The stte was better. There was dancing and partying."

After two months in Jonestown, Layton asked temple officials to return her to San Francisco, but they refused. The officials told her there is a "huge CIA conspiracy" against Jim Jones. "They told me I would be arrested when I arrived in the United States and questioned," whe said, "and (that) if I didn't give information (to the CIA), I would be tortured."

The opportunity to escape finally came in May, when she was sent on temple business to Georgetown. She escaped from the group and turned herself in to American consular officials, who granted her an emergency passport and agreed to safeguard her departure from Guyana. She flew to New York on May 13 and is now living in San Francisco.

Temple officials continue to deny the charges against the church and the Rev. Jones.

"We absolutely refute all the charges," said Tim Clancy, a church spokesman in San Francisco, "This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."